

# HERITAGE NAZARENE

7

# FAITHFUL FATHERS

#### **ICE BREAKER:**

- How would you define a hero?
  What characteristics would you look for in a hero?
- How important is it to you that a hero be "faithful"?
- · What does faithfulness look like to you?

#### Read Hebrews 11:1

How is faith defined?

# faith: | feyth| - n. confidence or trust in a person or a thing, a belief that is not based on proof; belief in God or religion doctrine.

#### Read Hebrews 11: 2

- What were they commended for?
- So much faith is required in daily life. Give some examples. What do we put faith in?

#### Read Herrews 11: 5-6 Enoch

- Verse 5 says he "pleased God." Can we please God without faith?
- Verse 6 Are there rewards for faithfulness? What?

#### Read Hebrews 11: 7 Noah

He "built an ark" in a desert...how much faith did that take?

(He became "heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.")

# Read Kebrews 11:8 Abraham

 He "obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going." Ever feel like Abraham?

(God calling you to go somewhere or do something but he doesn't tell you where or what until you obey and step out in faith?)

#### Read Hebrews 11:9-17

In what ways does Abraham show faith through these verses?

#### READ HEBREWS 11:39

NOTE: So many men & women are talked about in these prior verses as being faithful! They set an example for all to follow!

How important is it for each of us to set an example of faith?

#### Read Titus 2:6-8

 Verse 7-Paul writes "set an example" by "doing what is good."

NOTE: When he says "by doing" he's talking about actions! Show them an example.

How do we show (set an example) by what we do?

- Are all examples good?
- In what ways could you be a good example to those around you?

#### Read Titus 2:6-8 Again

What does Paul say a good example looks like?

### **3 W**ays to be the good example God wants us to be:

1. Be an **Encourager** not a **Discourager**.

# Read Titus 2:6-8 Again

How should we encourage?

# Read 1 Thessalonians 5:11

- What should encouragement do?
- Do we all need encouragement?
- Do we all need to give encouragement?

#### 2. Be an Teacher not a Preacher.

NOTE: We all need to look at ways to teach rather than preach to our families, friends, neighbors, and enemies.

#### READ MATTHEW 18:6

What does this say about teaching?

# READ DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9 & MATTHEW 22:37

- What are some important things to teach those whom we love?
- Be a Seeker not a Hider.

#### READ MATTHEW 26:39

- Whose will did Jesus seek?
- Do you seek His will or His provisions? Do you seek the Giver or the gifts? Do you seek the Blesser or the blessings?

NOTE: Life is not about you...it's about God! Seek after God's will, don't hide from it!

# *Application*

- Am I as faithful as I should be or could be?
- What can I do right now to strengthen my faithfulness?

